



GEELONG NATURALIST

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GEELONG NATURALIST

JOURNAL OF THE GEELONG FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB INC.

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Publishing Committee

Valda Dedman, 69 North Valley Road, Highton, 3216. (Editor)

Gordon McCarthy, 26 Fairbrae Avenue, Belmont, 3216.

Dave King, 8 Traum Street, Portarlington, 3223.

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G.F.N.C.,
P.O. Box 1047, Geelong.

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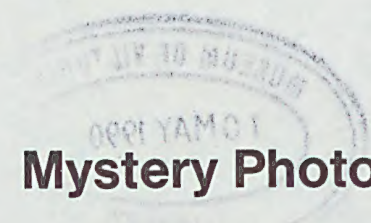
Editorial

The 1989 Geelong Bird Report, published in this issue, gives us the opportunity to compare sightings with those of previous years. Gradually a picture is being built up of bird distribution and movements in our local area, which will be a valuable reference tool in years to come.

It would be good to have a similar annual report for the plants of the region, so that unusual flowerings and botanical finds could be systematically recorded. I know there were spectacular displays of Duck Orchids last year. What else was worth nothing? Perhaps the Plant Group will take up the challenge.

If you see or find anything, on any natural history subject, that you think is worth recording, please write a few lines about it for the Geelong Naturalist. Sometimes the most "ordinary" things are really significant, especially in the long term. The Editorial Committee is always in need of fresh material for the magazine, and wants to have as much variety as possible in its content. We also like a mix of formal articles, research reports, short notes and records of Club excursions.

Valda Dedman



Mystery Photograph Solution

The photo in the last issue was taken at the Dog Rocks on the Club excursion on 20 April, 1986.

A Wonderful World of Birds

by Dianne Hughes

We moved from the outer Melbourne suburb of Keysborough to Geelong four and a half years ago, and immediately entered a wonderful new world of birds and their calls which we had never seen or heard in Melbourne.

In Keysborough we had a large recreation reserve behind the house which was planted out with native shrubs and trees. The birds were mainly the introduced varieties, but because we had planted bird attracting trees and shrubs we were very fortunate to be visited regularly by White-plumed Honeyeaters, Red Wattlebirds, magpies and mud-larks. We arrived in Geelong and moved into a house in Herne Hill across the road from the old Orphan Asylum, and suddenly we saw and heard birds which had us constantly checking bird books often without finding the correct answers. No bird book explained what the elusive bird in the tall eucalypt across the road was with its wonderful far-carrying "ping pingy" call, and to this day I have never seen the Spotted Pardalote, but always enjoy the beautiful clear notes of its call.

We decided to settle at Teesdale and bought 12 acres, part of which is a gully and swamp with a cover of Red Gum (*E. camaldulensis*) and Manna Gum (*E. viminalis*). We were immediately surprised by the number of magpies and noisy miners around. There was also a family of kookaburras, and some ducks on a small dam.

Twelve months after we bought the land we moved into our new home. Our first job was the dig out part of the dam and make an island. When or if the dam ever filled and became deeper the ducks and other water birds would have a safe refuge. We added rainbow trout to the dam hoping for lovely fresh fish in twelve months time. Unfortunately the bush telegraph notifying the cormorants got in before us and by the time we came to fish there was nothing left. We still have four to six cormorants as permanent residents.

For Christmas in our first year I was given a pair of binoculars and a tape of 'What bird calls is that', and suddenly not only could I see the birds and watch them but I could also identify their calls. Around the back of our property is a plantation of native trees planted by the owners of Woolbrook.

We are sure the large numbers of birds around is due to this, as it is a corridor across to the Inverleigh Common. To sit on our back sand hill and watch birds is surely one of the great pleasures in life. We have counted 43 species of birds which we have seen. There could be more, as each year I find another bird I haven't seen or heard before.

We have been feeding the kookaburras and magpies from very early after we arrived and slowly other birds have joined in.

The little magpie larks, with their fussy ways, are a pleasure to watch. My daughter encouraged a pair of Whistling Kites to come down, much to the disapproval of the other birds, although they all seem to fit in together with the smaller birds coming up to the house and the Kooks and Mags eating at both feeding places.

One of the great pleasures living in the country brings is the night sky especially during winter on a clear cold night when the stars are so clear, but in late winter and early spring the Barking Owl makes being outside an ordeal. It has managed to scare the wits out of various family members with its blood curdling scream. The soothing pleasant call of the Boobook makes you stop and listen, but you are then brought back to earth with a jolt when the scream of the Barking Owl starts. It spoils the pleasure of a winter's night, and makes you hurry back inside.

This last winter was very wet, causing the dam to fill and run back under the trees and make a wonderful lake. The swamp area around the dam has not been grazed since we bought the place. The reeds and a number of red gum seedlings have grown, making the area attractive to water birds. Various ducks have raised babies and the water hens have succeeded with some and lost others to predators. The latest visitors are a pair of spoonbills, and a pair of kingfishers whose true identity we can't decide on.

We are planting as many bird attracting plants as possible in our windbreaks and around the house to encourage birds, providing them with food and shelter. This is fortunately starting to work as the parrots and small honeyeaters are seen a lot more around the house.

Australian Magpie	Corella
Magpie Lark	Kingfisher
Kookaburra	Willie Wagtail
Whistling Kite	Restless Flycatcher
Noisy Miner	Grey Fantail
Red Wattlebird	Blue Wren
New Holland Honeyeater	Maned Duck
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	White-faced Heron
Raven sp.	Pacific Heron
Grey Shrike Thrush	Little Pied Cormorant
Golden Whistler	Black Swan
Little Grebe	Masked Lapwing
Royal Spoonbill	Straw-necked Ibis
Australian Bittern	Dusky Moorhen

Bluebilled Duck
 Striated Pardalote
 Eastern Rosella
 Red-rumped Parrot
 Galah
 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

Chestnut-breasted Shelduck
 Brown Thornbill
 Black Duck
 Pallid Cuckoo
 Welcome Swallow
 Wedgetailed Eagle
 Flame Robin

Dianne Hughes
 Kings Court, Teesdale

Tenacious Logs and Trees

by Peter Fagg

Occasionally, while wandering in the bush or other area, you come across some biologically-odd thing. In my forestry work, I have noticed a few logs and one tree wick, despite treatment which would have normally resulted in loss of biological activity, have successfully produced new (epicormic) shoots or roots, which sustained life for some time after felling or windthrow.

Epicormic Shoots on Logs

On three occasions I have discovered logs sprouting epicormic shoots and considerable time after being felled.

The first was in January 1971 when I found a Mountain Grey Gum (*Eucalyptus cypellocarpa*) in a log dump near the Wye Road in the Otway Ranges. The log, which was about 50 cm in diameter at the butt, and about 10 cm long, was sprouting shoots along most of its length. The log had been on the ground in the dump for an estimated six months.

The second log was from a Messmate Stringybark tree (*E. obliqua*) which had been felled also about six months previously, and was left in the bush because of a "pipe" defect. I discovered this log in April 1972 in a shaded spot near Mellick Munjie Track, north of Buchan. This log had a butt diameter of about 75 cm and was also about 10 m long. The shoots were 10-20 cm long, and occurred at 3 or 4 places along the log. The stump was also sprouting (coppicing).

The third case of resprouting logs was observed in June 1989 at a sawmill at the old Echuca wharf, where several logs in a large stack of Canary Island Pine

(*Pinus canariensis*) sawlogs had prolific, healthy epicormic shoots along their length. These logs were about 30-40 cm in diameter and about 6 m long, and had been felled about three months previously.

I don't know how long the shoots on all the logs stayed alive, as I did not return to check on them, but I doubt if the moisture reserves in the sapwood would have sustained growth for longer than 12 months.

There is a possibility that the eucalypt logs had developed adventitious roots underneath, which were drawing moisture from the ground, but I doubt this. Certainly, the Canary Island Pine logs were not relying on such roots. All logs had intact bark.

Epicormic shoots almost invariably arise from the trunks and larger branches of most species of eucalypts following partial or complete defoliation (and Canary Island pine is one of the few conifers to produce epicormic shoots). Such defoliation may be due to fire, insect attack, or even drought (Jacobs 1955). These new shoots arise from dormant buds that are concealed within the cambial layer under the bark and which originated at the bases of shed leaves, early in the life of the tree. The buds are stimulated to grow when the production of the growth-stopping hormone normally produced by the leaves in the tree's crown, ceases.

Adventitious Roots on River Red Gums

Back in March 1971, when I was re-measuring a large River Red Gum (*E. camaldulensis*) known as Bilston's Tree, north of Casterton, another interesting River Red Gum, within the reserved acre, was noticed. This tree, then about 30 cm in diameter at the butt, appeared to have grown up, then fallen over to touch the ground with its main trunk. Adventitious roots were apparently produced at this point of contact. Subsequently, about 1 m of the original butt section of the tree had died by natural decay, but the tree remained alive because it had an "auxiliary" root system. (This tree was still alive when inspected in 1989 by my sister, Mrs Rosalind Hill of the Casterton Field Naturalists Club)

What is perhaps most surprising is that the part of the tree between the new rooting point and the dead butt (approx 3 m) has continued to live. This means that the directions of flow of photosynthate and water have been reversed in this section.

However, tree physiologist, Dr Jim Morris of the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands, Kew, advised me that this reversal of flow through the xylem and phloem is quite possible, given that sap transport is from "source to sink", rather than necessarily up or down.

A similar example of adventitious rooting in River Red Gum south of Wangaratta was described by Auchterlonie (1953). A photograph accompanying

his article in the Vic. Nat. shows an obviously healthy tree surviving on roots arising from branches which contacted the ground after the tree was blown down in a storm about 12 years previously. In this case, the butt 4 m was cut off about 8 years after the storm.

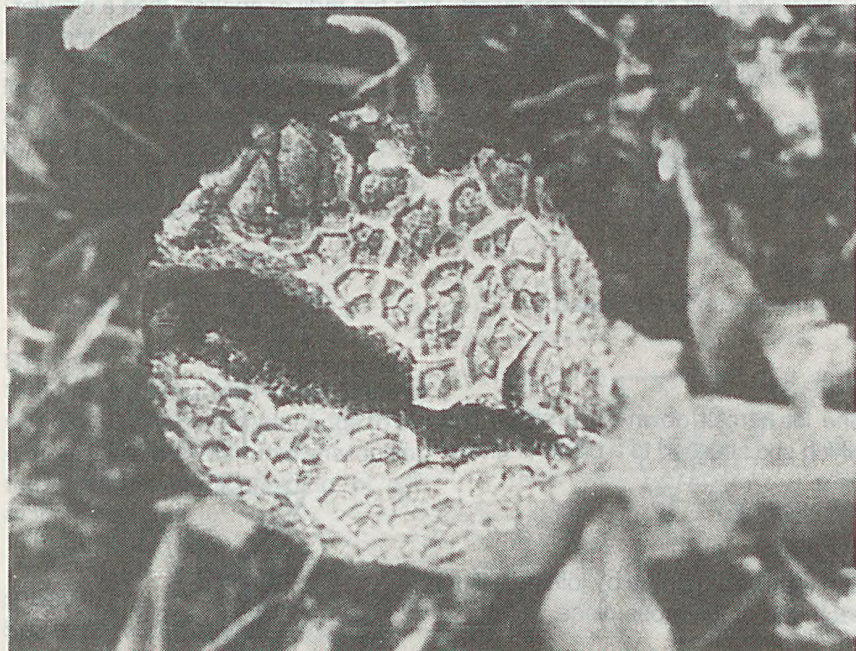
Possibly eucalypt species other than River Red Gums have the ability to produce adventitious roots, but I have not heard of them. The phenomenon noticed in these two cases raises the fascinating question: do the dormant bunds have the ability to form either adventitious roots or epicormic shoots, depending on the need?

References

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Jacobs, M.R. (1955) Growth Habits of the Eucalypts. For. and Timb. Bureau, 262 pp.

Peter Fagg
16 Simon Street,
Blackburn North, 3130

Mystery Photograph



Is it a monster opening its mouth? A dried nut, or seedpod? Answer next month.

Photo L. Lane

For Juniors

Autumn is spider time, and this year spiders seem to have been particularly active. My garden is so festooned with the webs of leaf curling spiders that at times I can hardly move without running into them and carrying off on my clothes the female in her shelter.

Have you ever seen the female on her web? Have you ever seen the male? Have you ever really looked at the shape of the web? Is it a full circle?

Few spiders have true fairytale round webs; some never spin a web at all, though all spiders use silk. They use it for their egg sacs, to tie up their prey, and one species spins a fishing net of it which it throws over its victim.

The Garden Spider spins a cartwheel web and the steps in its construction are very interesting. One starry evening I watched for more than an hour while a Garden Spider spun a web whose guy ropes were two metres long and the orb it supported was sixty centimetres in diameter.

First she built the outer framework, then the radii or spokes, then a circular frame which she used to walk on while she spun a sticky trap in the opposite direction.

STEP 1

She built a cross piece at the top securing both ends firmly.



1.

STEP 2

She attached a loose thread.



2.

STEP 3

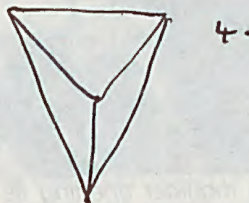
She let herself down on a silken line which she attached to a blade of grass.



3.

STEP 4

She formed a triangle by joining silk to each end of the cross piece.

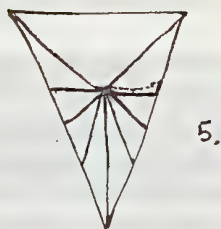


4.

STEP 5

She spun out the radii (the spokes of the wheel). She walked along one to the outer frame, along the frame for the required distance, then back to the centre, spinning silk as she went.

The new line formed the second spoke. The process was repeated till the circle of spokes was complete.



5.

STEP 6

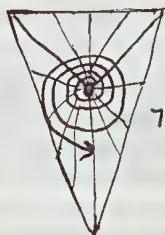
She strengthened the hub



6.

STEP 7

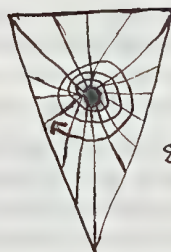
She made an anticlockwise spiral attaching it to the spokes as she went. At the beginning they were close together, but gradually the distance between them increased until the outer one were as far as she could stretch.



7.

STEP 8

She made a clockwise spiral of sticky silk, working from the outer edge to the centre. After each few turns she took up the anticlockwise scaffolding, or part of it.



8.

STEP 9

She removed the pad at the hub.

Next morning the complete web was gone. Do you know what happened to it?

The Muddled Mum

by L. Lane

Madame Unis was a handsome, young lady in her suit of grey patterned with black, and her striped stockings.

She had an extremely shy personality; she would steal away on noiseless feet to hide if she were alarmed. Despite that, she was quite grown-up and she had been looking for a place she could call her own, for she was gravid; and, finally, she found accommodation which suited her to perfection. She didn't mind that that walls were lacquered bright red for she was colourblind.

Madame Unis hung her new quarters with many folds of filmy draperies for she detested bright light flooding into her home.

She rested comfortably indoors, only going out shopping, if it were absolutely necessary, after dark. Madame Unis, who was a single Mum, soon felt it was time to create a cradle.

She fashioned, first, a strong pad of pure-white silk, shaping it gradually until it formed a concave, something like a shallow saucer. All of her maternal ancestresses had made just such a curious bassinette for their expected babies. This birthing-bowl she set on the floor, stabilizing it with silken ropes so that it could not be upset. Into this strange container she placed her babies - a couple of hundred of them - like a mound of greenish-yellow gooseberries.

When that was done and she felt her old, suave, slender self again, she hastened to weave a tapestry to keep her precious babies warm until they were toddlers. The coverlid she blended, very neatly, to the circumference of the shallow cradle and anyone would be pardoned if they imagined she had crocheted the edge. It looked rather like the rim round a five-cent piece.

Lastly, she smoothed the whole surface of both "lid" and "saucer" with extra layers of silk to keep the babies safe and dry.

She would stay with the silken sac until, after a fortnight or so, her dear little urchins were due to start toddling. She must be there, as soon as they were ready, to tear open the cradle with her fangs for the papery, outer covering was far too strong for her toddlers to penetrate.

If she desired to leave her curtained flat on any errand, she would carry the sac with her, like her mother had done, for safety's sake. In an emergency, she might secure the bundle by tying it to something stable with her ropes of silk, after which she would slink away on those silent feet to hide until it was safe to return to retrieve it. That was the traditional way for avoiding imminent danger to her person. It was imperative she survived to open the cradle at the right moment.

But HORRORS!.....the red walls of Madame Unis's flat suddenly unfolded, ripping the silk hangings to tatters and letting in a flood of bright sunshine. This nearly blinded her.

Madame Unis folded her slender legs and crouched in a corner.

She had, unfortunately, chosen for her nursery, the narrow space between the rear door of a motor-car and its frame, right near the latch. None of these human artifacts had she recognized - she just liked the dimensions of the room.

She rose and positioned her body protectively over the circular egg-sac, her eight long, gartered limbs spread round her treasure like the spokes of a wheel. Then, just as mysteriously, the walls closed again and she was in merciful darkness in a welter of despoiled draperies.

The red walls unfolded, just as abruptly as before. A giant brushed Madame Unis and her cradleful of babies into a round, transparent prison which was set down on its side in broad daylight. Her eyes, adapted for half-light were dazzled. The mother crouched in the bottom of the glass near the white sac. What was she to do?..... She hated light. She much preferred shadow or even darkness.

Instructed by instinct, she took the sac and strung it up so that the fat cushion did not touch the glass at any point. Having secured it, Madame Unis scuttled off sideways to seek a place of concealment where she could stay until dusk, when she would go out to obtain food before returning to move her brood to safety. She knew she must do so, even if she was terrified Alas! Mrs. Huntsman spider (*Isopoda immunis*) somehow failed to locate the egg-sac again.

This little tragedy happened on January 19th. The sac remained suspended in the glass, the spiderlings due to make their debut 2nd to 4th February.

13th Feb. 10th day after expected emergence the sac was photographed. It was a little elongated. The lower end obviously contained more of the burden than the upper (suspended) end.

The giant snipped the rim at the upper end and spilled out some spiderlings: Abdomens pale green, translucent like ripe grapes, with a row of brown blotches down the "spine" and some lateral striping with lighter brown. Bow-legs, transparent with brown "garters" and shiny skins. Row of black "eyes" on the forepart, which was smaller than the abdomen - underside a plain grape-green. The tiny creatures looked immature yet showed active leg-movements. Two had expired.

14th Feb. Half of the spiderlings were seated, quite still, in the same positions. Eight had taken refuge under the sac. They all retreated from touch. Two more were dead.

15th Feb. One shed skin identified and there were three larger spiderlings with hairy, (not shiny) legs with distinct articulations, and hairy bodies which were smaller by comparison. These were much more active when touched. More shiny babies were dead.

16th Feb. Clusters of hairy-legged, hairy-bodied creatures had emerged from the cradle - estimated 200. Some shiny ones still visible, probably some of the first unseated. Wreaths of skin casts all on the silken sac. These casts seem to be fastened down with web. The spiderlings mainly clustered on the sac, some hiding beneath. All reacted to bright light and or heat of the photographic lamp, also to touch, when they ran up the walls or clustered together over the skin-casts or disappeared under their erstwhile cradle.

17th Feb. All crowded on sac, one over the top of the other. No reaction to change of light or movement of the container but they scattered when blown upon. Estimated number 239 - difficult to count mobile mites! None of the original ones sighted. The sac now festooned with shiny casts. The lively spiderlings returned to their favourite station on the sac (on top of their brothers and sisters) when left in dimmish light.

18th Feb. Largest example had a leg-span of 11 mm. All assembled on the sac in a writhing mass of striped, hairy legs, except for one upside down on the transparent lid and six sitting round the bottom of the glass. Put in the sun and air, they milled rapidly about. Nine escaped over the top but most ran round the walls, then returned to the sibling-cluster. Several of them dropped on webs. Bodies flat, greenish but brown markings stronger. Thorax now bigger than the abdomen. As far as possible to number the milling mass: a few over 200. No sign of any immature ones! Had they moulted? Or were they eaten? Are they cannibals, I wonder? Isn't it a mercy they don't all survive?

19th Feb. Two with articulated legs curled up and dead. Spiderlings now brown. They can be very fast when disturbed but the tendency to cluster is still marked. It is now a month since Madame Unis's silken sac was first seen by the giant. The spiderlings were reluctant to depart.

When the cradle was devoid of life, it could be seen that many had accomplished their first moult inside the sac. The inside and the upper surface were furred with empty skins firmly anchored with web, the whole was light as thistledown.

L. Lane
Barkly St.,
East Geelong.



Spiderlings and egg sac (top right). Photo L. Lane.

An Addition To The Fresh-Water Fauna List Of The Ocean Grove Nature Reserve by Dave King

Since the inauguration of a museum at the Ocean Grove Nature Reserve there has been an aquarium containing specimens of fresh-water organisms found within the Reserve. Stocking of the aquarium is usually performed by regularly dip-netting in one of the ponds that maintains a permanent source of water.

Towards the end of November, 1989, it was necessary to obtain fresh stocks of invertebrates, such as fresh-water shrimp, back swimmers and any other species that might be caught. During this operation it was discovered that a small fish had been netted. As far as the author concerned this was a first for the Reserve. Its small size, 25mm in length, indicated it was an immature species.

Close examination under magnification revealed the fish to be a Southern Pigmy Perch (*Nannoperca australis*), family Kuhliidae. The family Kuhliidae contains about seven species, three of which are in south-east Australia. All are small fish, normally obtaining a fully grown size of between 65 and 80mm. They are possibly related to the North American basses (family Centrarchidae), Llewellyn, 1980.

Generally the fish may be described as a moderately compressed oblong fish. The two dorsal fins arise posteriorly to the half-way mark of the body. The anterior spinose fin has seven spines with the membrane deeply notched, particularly between the two anterior spines. The soft dorsal fin with ten spines arises immediately behind the spinose fins. Tail, slightly rounded posterior margin. Colour in the subject specimen was greenish brown on the back, blending paler to the belly. Darker vertical bands of scales were present along the body, although not very distinct, numbering seven. No other distinguishing markings were visible.

The pond in which the specimen was captured has been in existence for some 20 years and receives run-off from adjacent paddocks. It is relatively free of weed and aquatic vegetation. It is surrounded by endemic acacias. The water is constantly turbid with suspended clay particles. The level of water varies considerably over the year, but never dries out completely.

With the fact that Australia, in general, is not blessed with an abundance of native freshwater fish, it is gratifying to find an endemic species in the Reserve.

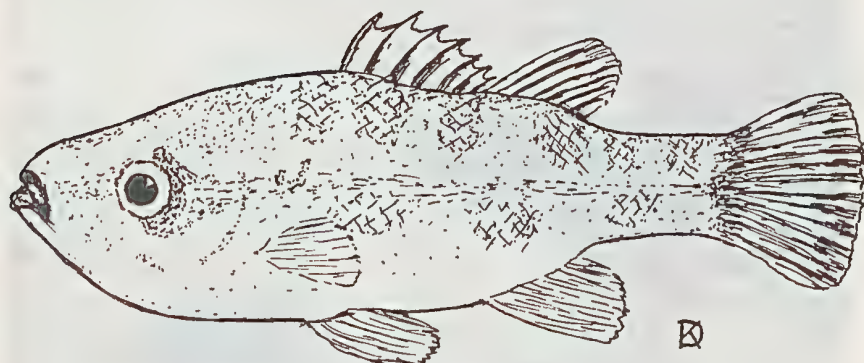
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Dave King

9 Traum St.,
Portarlinton, 3223.



10 mm

Immature Southern Pigmy Perch
Nannoperca australis

1989 BIRD REPORT

The following notes are based mainly on observations reported at the Bird Group meetings in 1989. They have been compiled by Trevor Pescott.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

- 4.2.89 30 nests Lake Modewarre, 29 with sitting adult, 1 deserted.
Total 170 birds on lake, including many young birds.
See Geelong Nat 26:52-55.

MH

Shy Albatross *Diomedea cauta*

- 19.3.89 1 (beachwashed) Breamlea.
22.10.89 1 flying off Breamlea.

VLJ

MC

Cape Gannet *Morus capensis*

- Feb. 89 1 Wedge Light Platform.

LK

Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

- 9.2.89 Nest with 4 young Lake Merrimu.
13.3.89 3 young out of nest Lake Merrimu (1 young disappeared).
2.4.89 2 young in another nest Lake Merrimu.
7.5.89 2 young out of nest Lake Merrimu.

MH

MH

MH

MH

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

- 27.3.89 Nesting at Lake Borrie.
29.7.89 Nesting nearly complete Lake Borrie.

TP

TP

Cattle Egret *Ardeola ibis*

- 25.7.89 17 Highton.

RBav

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

- 3.12.89 Nesting in old cypress trees at Corio.

BG

Rufous Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

- 30.4.89 1 Barwon River at Princes Bridge.
9.11.89 Nesting at Queens Park.

VD

MC

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

- Oct. 89 1 Werribee.
15.10.89 1 Werribee.
30.12.89 1 Bacchus Marsh

JS

MH

MH

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*

- Feb. 89 4 Connewarre.
11.11.89 1 Reedy Lake.
3.12.89 3 Hovells Creek in Lara.
31.12.89 Young birds on Reedy Lake have been raised here.

TB

RW

BG

DC

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*

- 12.2.89 1 Lake Borrie.
19.3.89 6 Werribee Sewage Farm.

MH

MC

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

- 16.9.89 5 flying over and around Highton Bowls Club.
22.10.89 Female with 19 young on Moolap Saltworks.

RBav

JW

Maned Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

- 3.5.89 4 flying over Newtown.
July/Aug. 89 Nesting at Teesdale.

CM

DH

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

- 4.2.89 297 Lake Modewarre.

MH

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*

- 4.2.89 367 Lake Modewarre.
21.11.89 Nesting at Teesdale.

MH

DH

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata*

4.2.89 85 Lake Modewarre.

MH

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus notatus*

6.11.89 3 juveniles opposite Fyans Park.

GM

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

Mid May 89 1 over Belmont.

MK



Blue-billed Ducks nested at Teesdale on Dianne Hughes property.

Photo Trevor Pescott.

Grey (White) Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

25.4.89	1 Newtown.	CM
14.5.89	1 Queens Park.	TP
19.5.89	1 Belmont.	TP
16.6.89	1 Belmont.	TP
1.7.89	1 being dived on by Black-shouldered Kite, Fyans Park.	GM
22.7.89	1 Barwon River.	GM
12.8.89	1 Ocean Grove Nature Reserve.	BLin
Aug. 89	1 Horseshoe Bend Road.	GM
19.11.89	1 Pollocksford.	VD

White-bellied Sea-eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

24.4.89	1 Wallington.	KW
Aug. 89	2 Coppards Road, Newcomb.	L/PS
23.12.89	1 Swan Bay.	DC

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*

20.9.89	1 nesting Inverleigh Common.	RBav
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Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

24.3.89	1 Barwon River.	GM
14.5.89	1 Barwon River at Princes Bridge.	TP
3.6.89	1 Barwon River.	GM
12.6.89	1 perched on dead boxthorn, Barwon River opposite Fyans Park.	GM

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

20.3.89	1 Lovely Banks.	TP
21.5.89	1 Black Rock.	BLin

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

2.6.89	1 Pt. Henry.	MH
2.7.89	1 Pt. Henry.	TP

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Late Sept. 89	2 Pollocksford.	VD
26.9.89	Nest 4 eggs Pt. Addis.	GM
17.10.89	Young hatched Pt. Addis.	GM
15.11.89	4 young are ready to leave nest at Pt. Addis.	GM
20.11.89	Young have left nest Pt. Addis.	GM
Nov. 89	2 young have left nest Pt. Addis.	JM
21.12.89	1 in Newtown garden.	KC

Australian Crane *Porzana fluminea*

3.12.89	11 Hospital Lake.	MC
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Brolga *Grus rubicundus*

6.10.89	1 Lake Gherang.	LK
20.11.89	2 Swamp beside Colac Road near Birregurra Creek.	MC
28.11.89	Nest 1 egg at above.	
	(note - the nest was subsequently deserted).	TP

Bush Thick-knee *Burhinus magnirostris*

3.12.89	1, maybe 2, Mannerim.	MC
	(other observers confirmed at least 1 bird later in Dec. 89).	MH,CM,DHew

Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*

15.6.89	6 Lake Connewarre.	MH
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Hooded Plover *Charadrius rubricollis*

11.3.89	Pair Bream Creek.	GM
8.10.89	Pair with 2 young, Black Rocks side of 13th Beach.	BLin

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

4.2.89	2 Breamlea.	MH
2.4.89	140 Lake Connewarre.	MH

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

3.12.89	5 Sand Island, Queenscliff.	MC
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Wood Sandpiper <i>Tringa glareola</i>		
15.10.89	3 Werribee.	MH
	(Note: These birds remained until at least 23.12.89).	(JPet)
22.10.89	3 Werribee.	MC
Latham's Snipe <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>		
3.11.89	199 Belmont Common.	VH
3.12.89	1 Hovells Creek in Lara.	BG
Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>		
22.10.89	Moolap Saltworks.	VLJ
Arctic Jaeger <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>		
14.1.89	1 Sand Island.	MC
22.1.89	2 Moolap.	MC
White-winged Tern <i>Chlidonias leucoptera</i>		
27.3.89	At least 50 Little River mouth.	TP
Caspian Tern <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		
14.5.89	4 Lake Connewarre.	MH
Fairy Tern <i>Sterna nereis</i>		
15.6.89	11 Fishing in Lake Connewarre.	MH
Peaceful Dove <i>Geopelia placida</i>		
2.9.89	2 You Yangs.	TP
Barbary Dove <i>Streptopelia risoria</i>		
10.2.89	1 Belmont.	TP
13.2.89	1 Belmont.	TP
16.7.89	1 Balyang Sanctuary.	TP
Common Bronzewing <i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>		
1.5.89	2 in 5 acre subdivision north of Lara.	TP
Gang-gang Cockatoo <i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>		
26.2.89	2 Fyans Park.	TP
5.3.89	2 or 3 immature feeding on Cottoneaster, Hawthorn and Crabapple berries, Newtown.	CM
14.3.89	Belmont in garden, Fairbrae Avenue.	GM
25.3.89	20 Highton.	?
2.7.89	Belmont.	TP
Aug. 89	Highton.	VD
Aug. 89	Belmont.	RBea
19.10.89	19 Highton.	RBav
24.10.89	10 Belmont.	?
24.10.89	3 Waurn Ponds.	MC
24.10.89	10 Highton.	RBav
28.11.89	10 Highton.	RBav
Dec. 89	2 Belmont.	TP
Long-billed Corella <i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i>		
Jan. 89	Many at Ceres.	VD
28.2.89	2 flying west over Newtown a.m..	CM
22.10.89	14 Moolap Saltworks.	JW
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo <i>Cacatua galerita</i>		
23.1.89	Belmont.	GM
Jan. 89	25-30 Highton.	RBav
April 89	Highton.	RBav
5.7.89	4 Lovely Banks.	TP
16.12.89	2 Belmont.	TP
23.12.89	16+ Highton.	RBav
28.12.89	18+ Highton.	RBav
30.12.89	20+ Highton.	RBav

Rainbow Lorikeet <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>		
23.5.89	25 Eastern Park.	MC
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet <i>Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus</i>		
18.3.89	1 apparently paired with a Musk Lorikeet (<i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>), mixed with a flock of Rainbow Lorikeets (<i>T. haematodus</i>) in the trees along the Barwon River between Princes Bridge and Fyans Park.	TP
Little Lorikeet <i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>		
Feb. 89	2 Point Lonsdale.	WB
Australian King-Parrot <i>Alisterus scapularis</i>		
18.5.89	1 Highton.	RBav
25.5.89	2 Highton.	VD
30.5.89	1 Highton.	RBav
8.6.89	1 Highton.	RBav
Aug. 89	1 Belmont.	?
Swift Parrot <i>Lathamus discolor</i>		
26.4.89	6 Belmont.	TP
14.5.89	8-10 Highton.	RBav
20.5.89	Belmont.	CM
21.5.89	3 Highton.	RBav
Crimson Rosella <i>Platycercus elegans</i>		
24.3.89	1 juvenile with yellow-spotted plumage. (Mutation, or possibly due to the beak-and-feather virus that causes similar effects) Heywood near Portland.	IS
20.12.89	1 Belmont.	TP
Orange-bellied Parrot <i>Neophema chrysogaster</i>		
12.3.89	None found at Connewarre despite search for them in usual habitats.	MH
2.4.89	27 Connewarre.	MH
16.4.89	30 Connewarre.	MH
14.5.89	34 Connewarre.	MH
15.6.89	57 Lake Connewarre.	MH
21.10.89	1 Swan Bay Jetty.	JS
Brush Cuckoo <i>Cuculus variolosus</i>		
3.12.89	2 Ironbark Basin.	MC
Fan-tailed Cuckoo <i>Cuculus pyrrhophanus</i>		
Feb. 89	1 Belmont.	MK
14.5.89	1 Barwon River Highton.	VD
14.5.89	1 Barwon Heads.	MH
	(various other observations suggested some birds had over-nested here.	
7.12.89	Large numbers at Ocean Grove Nature Reserve.	GM
Shining Bronze-cuckoo <i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>		
17.5.89	1 Deakin University Waurm Ponds.	MC
	(various other observations during winter).	
28.9.89	3 Steiglitz.	RBav
20.10.89	Calling Newtown.	CM
Barking Owl <i>Ninox connivens</i>		
May 89	1 roosting in street-tree in Belmont.	RBea
July 89	The bird is back in the same tree after an absence.	RBea
July/Aug. 89	Has nested Teesdale.	DH
Tawny Frogmouth <i>Podargus strigoides</i>		
20.8.89	2 Anakie Gorge.	JH
22.10.89	Nesting You Yangs - 2 young in nest.	LK
White-throated Needletail <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>		
8.2.89	10+ Bannockburn.	RBav
22.2.89	Flock over Forrest.	TP
27.2.89	12+ Teesdale.	RBav
21.12.89	10 West Barwon Dam.	TP

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

15.1.89	1 bird positively identified in small flock of swifts Stony Creek Brisbane Ranges.	MH
Feb. 89	About 200 Werribee – swooping down to drink.	PT
1.3.89	30 in loose flock moving in southerly direction over Newtown 2000 hr.	CM
2.3.89	1 or 2 over City of Geelong at 1800 hr.	CM
3.3.89	50 Bacchus Marsh.	MH
8.3.89	40 Bacchus Marsh.	MH

Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*

April 89	1 Highton.	VD
14.5.89	1 Barwon River Newtown.	VD
30.8.89	1 Barwon River Highton.	TP
4.9.89	1 caught and killed large Golden Bell Frog, Barwon River (Stan Lewis Walk).	GM
15.10.89	1 with Tiger Snake, Barwon River (Newtown side).	GM

Sacred Kingfisher *Halcyon sancta*

12.9.89	Pair Balyang Sanctuary.	CM
23.11.89	1 Belmont.	TP

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

30.1.89	12 (including juveniles) Inverleigh Common.	RBav
28.10.89	Ceres.	VD

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*

31.1.89	2 Highton.	RBav
16.5.89	3 Herne Hill.	IS

White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii*

14.9.89	1 male Barwon River (Stan Lewis Walk). (See note under Leaden Flycatcher)	GM
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Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

25.5.89	Calling in Newtown 0700 hr.	CM
Mid July 89	Calling Herne Hill.	IS
24.11.89	1 Belmont.	TP
28.12.89	Nest with egg, Belmont.	GM

Pink Robin *Petroica rodinogaster*

19.8.89	2 Ocean Grove Nature Reserve.	MC
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Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea*

28.3.89	1 Ocean Grove Nature Reserve.	?
7.5.89	Barwon River Highton.	MC
14.5.89	King Lloyd Reserve Newtown.	TP
26.8.89	Calling You Yangs.	TP
30.8.89	King Lloyd Reserve Newtown.	TP
18.12.89	1 brown bird Eastern Park.	CM

Scarlet Robin *Petroica multicolor*

13.7.89	1 opposite Fyans Park.	GM
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Hooded Robin *Melandryas cucullata*

23.7.89	2 You Yangs.	RBug
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Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis*

June 89	2 Leopold.	JH
16.7.89	2 Highton.	RBav
23.7.89	1 Barwon River at Princes Bridge.	GM
31.7.89	1 Leopold.	JH
7.8.89	1 Leopold.	JH

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

20.12.89	1 very vocal, immature, Eastern Park.	CM
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Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*

8.11.89	In numbers along with Satin Flycatchers, White-winged Trillers and Dusky Wood-swallows.	GM
3.12.89	2 Ironbark Basin.	MC



Rufous Fantail. Photo Trevor Pescott



White-fronted Honeyeater. Photo Trevor Pescott

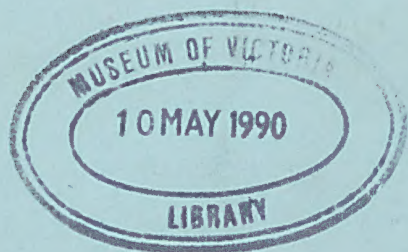
Rufous Fantail <i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>		
24.3.89	1 Ocean Grove Nature Reserve.	BLin
17.11.89	1 Long Forest (the only previous record for that area is 15.11.87).	MH
Clamorous Reed-Warbler <i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>		
16.7.89	Calling Barwon River at Princes Bridge.	GM
23.8.89	Numbers calling Barwon River.	GM
30.8.89	Calling Barwon River at Princes Bridge.	TP
Rufous Bristlebird <i>Dasyornis broadbenti</i>		
3.4.89	1 West Barwon Dam.	TP
12.9.89	Nesting Pt. Addis.	GM
21.12.89	1 West Barwon Dam.	TP
Speckled Warbler <i>Sericornis sagittatus</i>		
7.1.89	2 Bannockburn bush.	GM
White-throated Gerygone <i>Gerygone olivacea</i>		
7.1.89	1 Bannockburn bush.	GM
15.1.89	1 Stony Creek, Brisbane Ranges, feeding in eucalyptus.	MH
Yellow-rumped Thornbill <i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>		
23.12.89	9 Highton Recreation Reserve.	RBav
29.12.89	6 Highton Recreation Reserve (including several juveniles).	RBav
Regent Honeyeater <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>		
25.10.89	1 Mannerim.	EB
Noisy Miner <i>Myzantha melanocephala</i>		
27.2.89	30-40 Timber Reserve, Meredith Road, Teesdale.	RBav
Yellow-faced Honeyeater <i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i>		
3.4.89	Newcomb.	CM
20.4.89	50 with White-naped Honeyeaters, Newtown.	CM
22.4.89	Highton.	RBav
23.4.89	Flying over East Geelong.	MC
Black-chinned Honeyeater <i>Melithreptus gularis</i>		
Jan-Feb 89	4 Toyne's Road near You Yangs.	Bly
White-naped Honeyeater <i>Melithreptus lunatus</i>		
23.4.89	150+ flying over Newtown in 15 minutes.	CM
24.10.89	Highton.	RBav
New Holland Honeyeater <i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>		
25.4.89	Feeding around lights in building after dark.	MH
Nov. 89	Very few present in Belmont & Highton gardens.	DS,GM,RBav
White-fronted Honeyeater <i>Phylidonyris albigula</i>		
13.4.89	1 Point Addis.	BG
Eastern Spinebill <i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>		
Jan. 89	Nesting, Durdidwarrah.	GM
Mistletoebird <i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>		
28.3.89	1 male Queens Park.	CM
13.4.89	1 Eastern Park.	CM
19.4.89	1 Newtown.	CM
14.5.89	1 Barwon River Highton.	VD
European Goldfinch <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		
15.7.89	4 Highton.	RBav
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>		
Jan. 89	Nesting Highton.	PS
Common Mynah <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>		
18.6.89	1 Devon Road/Colac Road intersection.	TP
Late Sept. 89	1 Pollocksford.	VD
Throughout 89	Up to 2 semi-albino in the Coxon Parade/Stubbs Avenue area, Nth. Geelong.	JP

Olive-backed Oriole <i>Orilus sagittatus</i>		
14.5.89	1 Belmont.	TP
20.9.89	2 Inverleigh Common.	RBav
19.10.89	2 Inverleigh Common.	RBav
White-browed Woodswallow <i>Artamus superciliosus</i>		
22.10.89	10 You Yangs.	MC
Dusky Woodswallow <i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>		
30.4.89	12 Buckley Falls.	TP
1.5.89	2 Belmont.	TP
14.5.89	2 Queens Park.	TP
2.6.89	2 Queens Park.	TP
	(See note under Leaden Flycatcher)	
Grey Butcherbird <i>Cracticus torquatus</i>		
16.2.89	2 including juvenile Highton.	RBav
Pied Currawong <i>Strepera graculina</i>		
5.1.89	Several Belmont.	GM
13.1.89	Several Belmont.	GM
14.2.89	1 Belmont.	TP
Late Feb. 89	Newtown.	LD
4.3.89	Heard in Newtown.	CM
27.4.89	16 Highton.	RBav
5.5.89	30 Highton.	RBav
15.5.89	Eastern Park.	MC
16.5.89	Herne Hill.	IS
2.6.89	8 Barwon River Highton.	TP
Mid July 89	4 Herne Hill.	IS
Grey Currawong <i>Strepera versicolor</i>		
20.9.89	2 Inverleigh Common.	RBav

Observers

BG	Bird Group members	LD	Lawrie Drinnan
BLin	Barry Lingham	LK	Liz Kerr
BLyo	Bev Lyon	L/PS	Lin/Peg Sago
CM	Craig Morley	MC	Margaret Cameron
DC	David Cass	MH	Marilyn Hewish
DH	Dianne Hughes	MK	Myra Kroger
DHew	Dean Hewish	PS	Penny Smith
DS	Dick Southcombe	PT	Peter Trusler
EB	Elsie Bolton	RBav	Ray Baverstock
GM	Gordon McCarthy	RBa	Rod Beardsley
IS	Ira Savage	RBug	Rohan Bugg
JH	Joanne Heatlie	RW	Roger Wileman
JM	Jamie Mackenzie	TB	Thornton Borbidge
JP	Joy Pearce	TP	Trevor Pescott
JPet	John Peter	VD	Valda Dedman
JS	Jon Starks	VH	Vic Hurley
JW	Joyce Ward	VLJ	Val Lloyd-Jones
KC	Kay Coltman	WB	Wendy Borrie
KW	Ken Wilson	?	Observer not recorded

Trevor Pescott
4 Victoria Terrace
Belmont, 3216.



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